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11-17-2011

# Student Ensemble: Wind Symphony

Stephen K. Steele, Conductor

David Maslanka, Guest Conductor

Nancy O'Neill, Student Soloist

Saul Garland, Student Soloist

John Koch, Reader

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*Illinois State University  
College of Fine Arts  
School of Music*

*25 Years  
Celebrating a quarter century of the  
Illinois State University*

# **WIND SYMPHONY**

Stephen K. Steele, *Conductor*

David Maslanka, *Guest Composer*

Nancy O'Neill and Saul Garland, *Student Soloists*

John Koch, *Reader*

**This is the seventy-second program of the 2011-2012 Season**

**Center for the Performing Arts  
Thursday Evening  
November 17, 2011  
8:00 p.m.**

## ***Program***

David Maslanka ***SEA DREAMS (1997)***  
(born 1943) *Concerto for Two Horns and Wind Orchestra*

- I. Moderate – Very Fast
- II. Flexible and Expressive
- III. Moderately Slow – Very Fast

Nancy O'Neill and Saul Garland, *Horn*

## ***Intermission***

David Maslanka ***SYMPHONY No. 9 (2011)***

- I. *Shall We Gather at the River*  
*I Thank You God for All Your Good Works*
- II. *Now All Lies under Thee*
- III. Fantasia on *I Thank You God...*
- IV. Fantasia on *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*  
  
*Shall We Gather at the River*  
*Watch the Night with Me*  
*Soul, How Have You Become So Unhappy*  
*Whale Story (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)*  
*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

John Koch, *Reader*

***Premiere Performance***

## *Program Notes*

**David Maslanka** was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1943. He attended the Oberlin College Conservatory where he studied composition with Joseph Wood. He spent a year at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and did graduate work in composition at Michigan State University with H. Owen Reed.

Maslanka's works for wind ensemble have become especially well known. They include the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Symphonies, *Mass*, 12 concertos, and numerous concert pieces. In addition, he has written a wide variety of chamber, orchestral, and choral works.

David Maslanka's compositions are published by Carl Fischer, Inc. and David Maslanka Publications and are recorded on numerous labels. He has served on the faculties of the State University of New York at Geneseo, Sarah Lawrence College, New York University, and Kingsborough College of the City University of New York. He now lives and composes in Missoula, Montana.

### *Sea Dreams*

I was born and raised in New Bedford, Massachusetts, the former whaling port made famous in Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. I was riveted by the novel when I first read it at age fifteen. The secondary aspects of the book, such as descriptions of the ship and whaling gear, and the varying moods of the ocean, sprang to life for me as directly as the main story of Ahab and the whale. Over the years other stories of Melville, the sea paintings of Winslow Homer, the sea imagery in the poetry of Pablo Neruda, and my own meditations on the sea, have touched me in the same way.

As I composed the *Concerto for Two Horns* sea images rose powerfully to the surface one more time. The *Concerto* is in three movements. The first has a very serious and intense opening and a released and joyous conclusion – a great storm and joy in deliverance. At the beginning of the second movement I wrote the words “moonlight on the quiet sea.” This movement is a quiet reflection on the turmoil of the first. The last movement parallels the first with a serious opening and a rousing dance-like conclusion.

- David Maslanka

*Symphony No. 9* is a large collection of instrumental songs. There are many influences and underlying elements, but most of them cannot be explained in words. Rather than try, I will simply list some of the things at work:

Time - memory, passing of time, “we flew through the years hearing them rush under us” – Merwin

Water – cleansing and life-giving power, *Shall We Gather at the River*, *Whale Story*

Nature – our ground, river, ocean, chickadees

Grace – compassion, forgiveness, rest

The *Symphony* begins with a reading of the poem *Secrets\** by W.S. Merwin.

Time unseen time our continuing fiction  
however we tell it eludes our dear hope and our reason  
  
that is a pure condition of the story  
and wherever our parents came from is another century  
  
an age which they themselves could barely remember  
but carried with them as their own year after year  
  
hidden away hardly looked at until the secret  
without their noticing had faded all the details white  
  
for my mother it came to be the lace veil covering  
the front of the baby carriage where she was being  
  
wheeled through the Garden of the Gods when her parents were  
still alive as she told about it later  
  
and for my father it was the glare bleaching the surface  
of the river as he sat under the white blaze  
  
of summer in the rowboat tied above the waterline  
where he was allowed to hold the oars and imagine  
  
leaving did he see any farther when he was  
dying in summer after midnight and before the solstice  
  
coughing saying he was not afraid and was the veil still there  
when my mother turned from her own garden one evening that same year  
  
telling a friend on the telephone that she was going  
to get a little rest now and her glasses were lying  
  
apart from her on the floor not more than an hour  
later when a neighbor pushed the door open and found her

Each movement embodies one or more Chorale\*\* melodies or other songs. In the fourth movement there is a reading of my own *Whale Story (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)*.

I. *Shall We Gather at the River*  
*I Thank You God for All Your Good Works\*\**

II. *Now All Lies under Thee\*\**

III. Fantasia on *I Thank You God...*

IV. Fantasia on *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*\*\*

*Shall We Gather at the River*

*Watch the Night with Me* (flute, trumpet, harp, piano)

*Soul, How Have You Become So Unhappy*\*\* (flute, trumpet,  
saxophone, harp, piano)

*Whale Story (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)*

*Why should God have incarnated only in human form?*

*(A brief story about whales)*

In the sixty million years or so the great whales have had, both on land and in the oceans, there have been numerous, and in fact, innumerable great beings among them. In fact, it turns out now that all the great whales are either highly developed bodhisattvas or Buddhas. And in fact, it turns out that the Earth's oceans are a Buddha Pure Land, and when you pass from this existence it is to be hoped for rebirth as a god or a great whale. In fact, it turns out that the Pure Land oceans of the Earth are a training ground for Buddhas across all space and time. We are loved by the great whales, and they, serenely riding the waves of birth and death, will die for us so that we may come to our enlightenment.

The end.

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*\*\* (clarinet, saxophone, harp, piano, percussion)

\* Secrets is used by permission of Copper Canyon Press

\*\* The old chorales melodies are taken from the *371 Four-part Chorales* by J.S. Bach

- David Maslanka

**Nancy O'Neill**, of Algonquin, Illinois, is a senior Music Education major & English Education minor. A graduate of Dundee-Crown High School, she has studied horn for twelve years and piano for sixteen. While at Illinois State Nancy has competed in the International Horn Competition of America and performed at the 2009 International Horn Symposium with the ISU Horn Choir under the direction of Dr. Joe Neisler. Nancy participates in ISU's Honors Program as a Presidential Scholar and is serving as a Teaching Assistant for the Honors Program this semester. She has completed a volunteer project that created and implemented a music curriculum for kindergartners enrolled in

Metcalf Elementary School's After School program. This past summer Nancy studied horn in Salzburg, Austria with Willi Schwaiger, solo horn of the Mozarteum Orchestra, and Radovan Vlatkovic, professor of horn at the Universität Mozarteum Salzburg. She has been a proud member of Illinois State's bands, orchestras, and Big Red Marching Machine since her freshman year and hopes to teach general music and band at the elementary school level after graduation.

***Saul Garland***, from Mountain City, Tennessee, is a second year graduate student working on his master's degree in instrumental conducting and horn performance. He completed his undergraduate degree in music education in 2008 at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee. Saul has been studying the horn privately since 2001, and his teachers include: Dr. James Boldin (currently at the University of Louisiana - Monroe), Dr. Karen Robertson at Appalachian State University, Mr. Arthur LaBar and Dr. Jeremy Hansen at Tennessee Technological University, Mrs. Jennifer Kummer of the Nashville Studio Orchestra, and Dr. Joe Neisler at Illinois State University. While at Tennessee Tech, Saul performed with the TTU Horn Choir at the 2007 Southeast Horn Workshop in Athens, Georgia; with the Tennessee Tech Symphony Band at the 2008 American Bandmaster's Association Convention in Miami, Florida; and performed regularly as a member of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra in Cookeville, Tennessee. Before coming to Illinois State, Saul served as the Director of Bands for the Johnson County Public School system in Mountain City, Tennessee, where he taught band students in seventh through twelfth grades. He hopes to continue teaching at the high school level upon his graduation from Illinois State.

## ***Wind Symphony Personnel***

### ***Piccolo, Flute and Alto Flute***

Stephanie Abderhalden, *Naperville* ¥  
Nancy LaChapelle, *Negaunee, MI* ¥  
Kaitlyn Childs, *Lockport*  
Pam Schuett, *Algonquin*  
Robin Asay, *Geneseo*

### ***Oboe and English Horn***

Christina Elder, *McHenry* ¥  
Brad Cardella, *Lemont* ¥

### ***E-flat Clarinet***

Lauren Willis, *Powder Springs, GA*

### ***Clarinet***

Mark Donahue, *Morton* ¥  
Beth Hildenbrand, *Fairbury* ¥  
Josh Wunderlich, *Alton*  
Jamie Orzechowski, *Windsor, CO*  
Bileshia Sproling, *Plainfield*  
Lauren Willis, *Powder Springs, GA* ¥  
Kara Hale, *Joliet*

### ***Low Clarinet***

Gustav Johnson, *Fairbury* ¥  
Jason Landaiche, *Joliet* ¥  
Kara Hale, *Joliet* ¥

### ***Bassoon and Contrabassoon***

Kay Schutte, *Bloomington* ¥  
Matt Kowalczyk, *West Dundee* ¥

### ***Saxophones***

Thomas Giles, *Colorado Springs, CO*  
Jodi Slagel, *Washington* ¥  
Brett Thole, *Breese* ¥  
Mitch Rogalla, *Geneva*  
Tyler Rosenblume, *Aurora*

### ***Horn***

Nancy O'Neill, *Algonquin*  
Saul Garland, *Mountain City, TN*  
Christine Hansen, *Monroe, WI*  
Allison Bellot, *Joliet*  
Jerusha Johnson, *Kaysville, UT*  
Alex Carlson, *Marengo*

### ***Trumpet and Piccolo Trumpet***

Erik Noska, *Lemont*  
Greg Bechtold, *Derry, NH* ¥  
Greg Hensel, *West Aurora*  
Pagean Sanders, *Mechanicsburg, PA* ¥  
Aaron Von Qualen, *Champaign*

### ***Trombone***

Megan Walls, *Ticonderoga, NY* ¥  
Corbin Huber, *Fairbury*  
Justin Marxman, *Effingham*

### ***Bass Trombone***

James Mahowald, *Schaumburg* ¥

### ***Euphonium***

Patrick Geren, *Rocky Face, GA*  
Jeff Byrnes, *Hickory Hills*

### ***Tuba***

Katie Zdanowski, *Morton*  
Tim Schachtshneider, *Minooka*

### ***String Bass***

Andrew Israelsen, *Aurora* ¥  
Laura Bass, *Vernon Hills* ¥  
Jeff Schaller, *Normal* ¥

### ***Piano***

Mo Xu, *Changchun, China* ¥

### ***Harp***

Molly McKenzie, *Urbana* ¥

### ***Percussion***

Dan Bretz, *Crystal Lake* ¥  
Mallory Konstons, *Aurora* ¥  
Jeremy Johnston, *Maplewood, MN* ¥  
Dan Benson, *Chicago* ¥  
Matt Brusca, *Joplin, MO* ¥  
Deborah Carpi, *Las Vegas, NV* ¥  
Kyle Barshinger, *Galesburg* ¥

¥ Performs on *Sea Dreams*



